

418 Steubenville Avenue Apt 1
Cambridge, Ohio 43725
4 March, 2003

Mr. Michael Copps, FCC Commissioner
1919 M ST NW
Washington DC 20554

Dear Mr. Copps,

I hope this letter finds you in good health and good spirits.
This letter and 6 page report/paper titled SAVING AIR WAVES TELEVISION are an attempt to prevent the death of air waves television ("Free T.V.") and thereby prevent the possible death of Democracy. Air waves television is necessary as an essential reference with which to compare cable T.V. and tends to keep cable T.V. honest. Air waves T.V. reaches out to all and provides the same signal to each and every one. The laws of nature ensure such uniformity of signal. Though cable T.V. may also provide the same signal to every subscriber-to-cable, it is not bound by nature to do so. The cable subscriber does not own the cable and has no control over what comes over it. With high speed digital computers and digital T.V. and with the control of which cable signals are directed to which citizens' homes, it is possible to differentially communicate to large groups of citizens. This communications power, concentrated in the hands of one or a few, with no air waves T.V. in existence to keep it honest, may lead to the demise of our Democracy. Please do not let them further endanger our form of government. The enclosed paper outlines the problem in some detail and provides a solution to it.

I thank you here for any consideration you give these matters.
Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

Mark C. Fleming

Mark C. Fleming b.a.

CC:files, et al.

Enc.: SAVING AIR WAVES TELEVISION - a report - six (6) pages

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SAVING AIR-WAVES TELEVISION

The following story came to me represented as being true. I will reproduce the gist of it here, but, even though I want to believe it to be true, it might not be.

dentist The story is of a dentist. I will call him Joe. He had a successful dental practice in a town in the U.S.A. and, though the community was a little larger than he could comfortably handle, he drove himself and met the challenge.

Then, along came another dentist who opened an office and began the practice of dentistry in the same town. I will call him Albert. As Joe passed by Albert's from time to time, he noticed there was seldom an automobile in Albert's parking lot, and the lot was never seen to be full. Weeks elapsed and Joe noticed Albert had a gloomy mood when ever he saw him on the street. Eventually Joe concluded that Albert was not getting his share of the dental work available to them both and that if some action was not taken, the other would fail business-wise in his new practice.

So, from time to time, Joe began rinsing his own mouth out with whiskey just before seeing some patients. He did this even though he did not drink. It was not long until he noticed a reduction in the number of patients he was serving and, when he passed by Albert's, the parking lot there was never empty and some times full. The patient dispersal had reached a fair extent and Joe stopped the practice of the whiskey-rinse. There was enough business for both of them.

This is some of the human side of small business. It is not regulated by law. It is one of those things some of us do when we see it should be done. I am generally not in favor of trickery but in this instance I can easily forgive Joe. Here is one more:

con- I was in Colorado working as an electronics technician when I struc- got a case of the gloomies myself. I began to doubt a lot of things and needed some helpful words. One day, while in this mood and seeking an encouraging word, I asked a coworker if he could think of a true tale of an instance where some one in business went out of his way to help the competition, even if it was just a little help. I further asked that he not mention any names so that no one would be embarrassed and so the information could not be used to give me or another some advantage.

He told me of a man who had a small contracting business working in construction and landscaping. A slump in the economy that lasted a while had a devastating effect on his business and he fell on hard times. Another, a large company working in that same field and in that same geographical area heard of the guy's plight and, out of the blue, offered him a subcontract (which they did not have to do as they could have easily expanded their business to handle the work). He readily accepted and the next day went to the work site to size up the job. It was road construction. He found the back hoe and other equipment there all gassed up and ready for him. He set himself at once to the task and did it well and in short order.

Financially he had won on that job and that kept his head above water until he again had steady work. For the big company it was just a drop in the bucket ... for him it ment survival.

Partly because of the way I structured the request, I am sure this story is true. He was free to tell the truth. Also, I know it to be true because he is a coarse kind of guy who indulges himself in being a robust truth teller, even if some times he hurts the feelings of others present. I have not communicated with him since about 1980,

some twenty-three years has elapsed since he related the story.

If neither of these storys convince you of the good actions of some in business I invite you to reflect on your own readings for some. The Reader's Digest is full of some like these (though many are unbelievable). Dale Carnegie's book How to Win Friends and Influence People is full of encounters he had and some of the storys were much like these two. I want to believe that I am not the only person who has been liberal in such business matters. I also want to tell of them here so that you do not become discouraged.

The human side of business never seems to take place when giant corporations are involved. I think it is not because only heartless men and women climb to the top of corporate ladders. Rather, the law fixing the obligations of corporations restrict such side humanitarian efforts/practices. Even if the action would prevent enviournmental damage or a tendency for Democracy to erode, the law does not permit much corporate excursion.

To say there is a battle (competition) between cable T.V. and air-waves T.V. (ether T.V.) by refering to it as cable T.V. versus free T.V. is misleading due to the lack of parallelism in the terms. The word cable refers to the medium of transmission. So, to properly compare it to the other segment of the television industry one should not use the term free T.V. but, rather, air waves T.V. or ether T.V. and I will use the proper terms herein.

Cable T.V. has two sources of income, cable customers/subscribers and advertisers. Air waves T.V. has only one source of income, advertisers. As costs have risen effecting the whole industry, it has been easier for cable, with it's two sources of income, to keep up and meet expenses. A major factor advertisers consider is the number of persons the medium will reach. As cable T.V. has increased it's subscribers, air waves T.V. has lost viewers. Since the advertisers are not willing to pay quite so much for air waves T.V., air waves T.V. has had, to meet expenses, to increase the number of ads it shows per hour. This, in turn, degrades the program. That leads to still fewer viewers and it is expected that, eventually, air waves T.V. will become extinct (die). It has been estimated that air waves T.V. will die within five to ten years.

Cable T.V. will be the big winner if air waves T.V. dies. Cable T.V. will not have that as competition. With out the competition Cable T.V. can degrade in any of several directions. With a greater partial or total monopoly it can charge excessively, further reduce the moral scope of it's programs (which have never been well regulated) and more. But there is a more serious hazard in store for America (U.S.A.) if all T.V. goes underground (to cable T.V.). We will tend to lose our Democracy. You see, to exercise good judgement, the population must be well informed. With out air waves T.V. as a corrective reference, cable T.V. can mislead. It is only through sources that offer a variety of philosophical perspectives (a variety of political orientations) can we, the citizens, truly gain insights and can properly compare and evaluate contrasting points of view. With out air waves T.V. our votes, for example, will not be as fine tuned as they have tended to be. Cable T.V. realizes what a win it will have and will want the extra power. They will no doubt say "We will present alteraative political positions." It is like the accountant/bookkeeper who goes to the CEO or owner of the company and says, "If you will authorize us to stop keeping the books in such a detailed fashion as we have, we could do other things and get a lot more work done around here. You can trust us. The books have always ballanced." If the CEO/owner says

"Yes." there goes the audit trail. And there will be little recovery when things go wrong.

who
is
guilty
So, cable T.V. is winning over air waves T.V.. It is obviously true that when ever some one kills another for gain, to find a good lead to the killer, all one need do is find out who will benefit from the death. For example, if an old lady is found dead with a knife sticking out of her back, we should take a look at her will. This makes sense to most of us. The killer might not be among the heirs but it is a good source of leads (they have motive). So, though it might not be cable T.V.'s fault for the demise of air waves T.V., if there is some thing that points to cable T.V. that shows air waves T.V. being hurried along toward it's death, should we not become aware of it ? I have three pieces of information for you that suggest that some entity (could it be cable T.V. ?) is trying to push air waves T.V..to it's death.

(1)
Curtis
Mathes
About a week ago I bought a new 13" color Curtis Mathes television receiver. It was on sale at KMart locally here in Cambridge, Ohio (see attached ad). I had been watching air waves T.V., either of two stations was available to me here; NBC and PBS with both available via UHF. I was using an old black and white set that was on it's last legs. I was looking forward to seeing color T.V. after so many years of black and white.

The new color receiver has a red light on the front along with the printed legend POWER. It looks like an LED (light emitting diode). I thought it was a pilot light. The T.V. was intermittant with the picture and sound coming on and off with a popping sound. The raster also was going on and off. I was hoping it would settle down and stay on as I was trying to adjust it for the first time and learning about how to control it. I was also trying to evaluate the quality of the picture and watch a show so I was not shocked to find the red light was always on when the picture, sound and raster were off and always off when those three were on. Further, at the time of the transistion a loud popping sound like a relay (mechanical) kicking on or off was heard. Though I have come to believe the condition I was seeing was not an electronics failure and that the set was designed to perform that way, I returned the set to KMart and got a refund. I used the refund to buy a 13" color Magnavox T.V. from that KMart.

I now believe that Curtis Mathes designed the T.V. so that, if the signal at the input jack, as measured perhaps at the second detector, was weak or variable (signifying air waves connection) the T.V. would disconnect the speaker, turn off the picture and the raster. This can easily be done by way of a relay control. The relay could also control the red light as stated. One might think that this design would prevent a viewer from watching a shoddy picture with bad sound due to a weak or variable signal and thus preserve the integrity of the appearance of a Curtis Mathes set, but it can also be thought of as "funneling" the viewer/owner away from air waves T.V. to cable T.V. and one wonders "Did cable T.V. enter into some contract with Curtis Mathes to get this result designed into the set ?" The result favors cable T.V. just as the knife in the back favors the heirs.

(2)
Magna-
vox
The Magnavox came with out any VHF or UHF antennae. I had to buy those two antennae separately and did so. The ads for the Magnavox did not show any antennas but I assumed they would be in the box with the T.V. just as I always assume that new shoes come with shoe strings. Since the Magnavox set did not have the on-off relay control of the Curtis Mathes design, I was able to get a steady raster, fair picture, and crackling sound. I have ordered a plus 20 db rf amplifier to

compensate and improve the audio. I hope it will work well enough for me to continue to watch air waves T.V.. In the past, T.V. manufacturers either manufactured their own antennas or farmed out the manufacture and in this way they could control both the quality of performance and the esthetics of the antenna design. One wonders if Magnavox was under contract to give up manufacturing air waves antennas. It seems improbable that a company would give up control of the design of the antennas with out payment of some kind.

(3) The antennas I bought to use with the Magnavox T.V. consist of a UHF hoop and two straight length-adjustable VHF antennas for use on top of the T.V. receiver or close to it. The hoop looks small. I compared it with the UHF hoop I have been using with the black and white T.V. for over six years. The new hoop is about two (2) centimeters shorter in diameter than the old hoop. It is believed that there is only one optimum diameter UHF hoop antenna useful for use in receiving the spectrum of frequencies used by UHF transmitters. So, One of these antennas is the wrong size. I believe the newer one is of the wrong diameter and will present a weaker signal at the T.V. input jack. In my case I can easily fashion a fine UHF hoop antenna from an old metal coat hanger. (Please do not tell the cable companys of this or they might rush over to the coat hanger manufacturer and offer them an underhanded contract and pay them if they manufacture coat hangers that cannot be so modified.) But most do not know they can make such an antenna or how to do so and will just simply adopt cable T.V.. Here again, the cable companies win and one wonders if it is all merely happenstance that they do. So, here is another instance of "funneling" and possible knife-in-the-back evidence.

who will The dentist story and contractor story were placed herein so you
fix it ? will not become overly discouraged about the motives and actions of your fellow man. Due to the limitations of law imposed on the CEOs of giant corporations they cannot cross certain lines and act like human beings with hearts. (The cash gifts seen on T.V. and given to charty are tax write offs for the corporations.) So, if giant corporations are to behave sensibly toward the environment and the Democracy, government will will have to bring them to do it. And government has often done such. A good example: the scrubbers required on coal fired electric utilities. Others include the existance of superfunds for cleaning up toxic waste sites. If air waves T.V. is to be saved, the government will have to do it. Corporations will not voluntarily, on their own, modify their ways of doing business so that air waves T.V., needed to maintain Democracy, will continue to exist. Instead of trying just a little bit to save air waves T.V., the cable companies seem to be operating behind the scenes (albeit in a legal way) to hurry the demise of air waves T.V. and since there is none to oppose them, this might come to pass.

fee
solu-
tion
A tax is defined by the Random House Dictionary of the English Language as "a sum of money levied upon incomes, property, sales, et cetera, by a government for its support or for specific facilities or services". When the tax does not serve the government we can properly refer to it as a fee. The solution to the problem is to charge the cable companies a fee. The fee can be based on the income the cable companies derive from cable subscribers. Up to 100 per cent could be charged. The amount collected could, after the government deducted it's cost of collection, be dispersed to the air waves television systems. I do not know the formula that would be just so that the dispersion would be fair and so that air waves T.V. would be preserved and so that, as a result, Democracy would be preserved.

An apolitical accountant (if one can be found) would know.

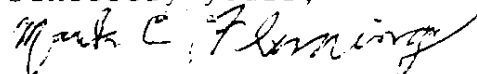
As stated, there is ample precedent for the fee solution. The scrubbers are one. I will include a newspaper article clipped from the Akron Beacon Journal (12/19/2002 issue) and relating to some excesses of telemarketers as another proposal of a fee solution to another problem. Such a fee would tend to remove the motive of cable T.V. to undermine air waves T.V. and they might adjust their subscriber rates to more accurately and fairly reflect their costs. The true cost of cable operations ... Democracy destroying efforts and effects included, should be borne by the perpetrators, the cable companies. The cable companies "polute Democracy" they should be charged a fee to "clean it up".

This proposed action, the fee solution, could have a beneficial effect on all television advertising. It could also have a positive effect on the quality of programming. The proposed solution will tend to level the playing field. Both air waves T.V. and cable T.V. can make a profit. In time, it is hoped a happy balance can be arrived at. If air waves T.V. grows by gaining viewers from cable T.V. then air waves T.V. will receive less from cable T.V. and cut-throat competition would tend to be removed as a mode of operation for the industry. In summary, there would be the off-setting force (the fee solution), which is not in place yet, that would provide redistribution of income.

Finally, there is the matter of politics related to getting this proposal installed. No matter what specific form or wording this proposal takes, it is sure to be opposed by the cable companies. I do believe this proposal cannot be implimented by the FCC alone but the chairman of the FCC is sure to be listened to more closely than myself with no degree in law and no power other than that of citizenship. But a letter or series of letters from the chairman of the FCC would surely have a positive effect on those who can make this proposal into law. Does not the FCC charter, provided by the United States Congress, suggest that the FCC would be properly operating if it tended to be oriented in support of the measure presented herein ? Please send me a list of names and addresses of persons I could send a copy of this proposal to so that the measure stated could have a better chance of being applied. Please feel free to make copies of this letter-report and send them to whom ever you wish to advance the proposal.

I will thank you in advance here for any consideration you give this matter. Thank you.

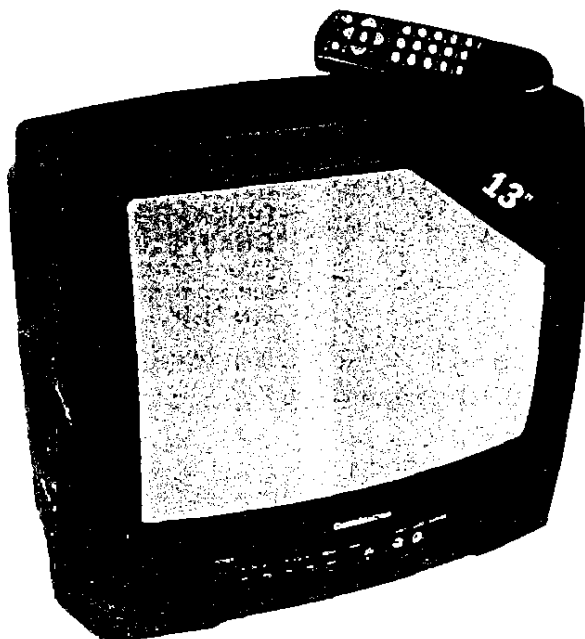
Sincerely yours,



Mark C. Fleming b.a.

CC:files, others

Enc.: newspaper clipping, advertisement



\$89 SALE

Was 94.99

CURTIS MATHES 13" TV

Front and rear A/V inputs
and sleep timer.

1-yr. Product Replacement, 7.99

FTC suggests 'do not call' list

Telemarketers would have to check registry every 3 months, could be fined

By Shelley Emling
Cox News Service

NEW YORK: Help may be on the way for those who hate a ringing phone during dinner.

The Federal Trade Commission announced a long-anticipated plan Wednesday to stop unwanted telephone pitches: a nationwide "do not call" list.

Consumers could sign up by

telephone or the Internet for a five-year stay on the list. Telemarketers would have to check the names every three months, and could be fined as much as \$11,000 if they call someone who is listed.

The rules also would require telemarketers to transmit caller ID information so that consumers who subscribe to such serv-

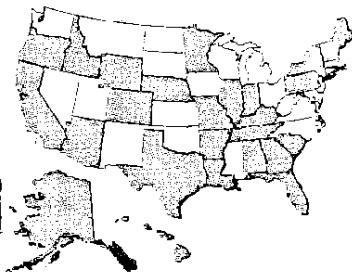
ices will know who is calling.

But relief is at least several months away.

To fund the operation, the FTC needs approval from the new Congress that convenes in January to collect as much as \$16 million in fees from telemarketers. If Congress grants

Stop calling me!

☒ States with do-not-call laws



SOURCE: National Conference of State Legislatures

Please see **Calls, A5**

Associated Press

ENCLOSURE

02-277

418 Steubenville Avenue Apt 1
Cambridge, Ohio 43725
4 March, 2003

Mr. Jonathan Adelstein; FCC Commissioner
1919 M Street NW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Mr. Adelstein,

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T.V. just as I always assume that new shoes come with shoe strings.
Since the Magnavox set did not have the on-off relay control of the
Curtis Mathes design, I was able to get a steady raster, fair picture,
and crackling sound. I have ordered a plus 20 db rf amplifier to

compensate and improve the audio. I hope it will work well enough for me to continue to watch air waves T.V.. In the past, T.V. manufacturers either manufactured their own antennas or farmed out the manufacture and in this way they could control both the quality of performance and the esthetics of the antenna design. One wonders if Magnavox was under contract to give up manufacturing air waves antennas. It seems improbable that a company would give up control of the design of the antennas with out payment of some kind.

(3) The antennas I bought to use with the Magnavox T.V. consist of a UHF hoop and two straight length-adjustable VHF antennas for use on top of the T.V. receiver or close to it. The hoop looks small. I compared it with the UHF hoop I have been using with the black and white T.V. for over six years. The new hoop is about two (2) centimeters shorter in diameter than the old hoop. It is believed that there is only one optimum diameter UHF hoop antenna useful for use in receiving the spectrum of frequencies used by UHF transmitters. So, One of these antennas is the wrong size. I believe the newer one is of the wrong diameter and will present a weaker signal at the T.V. input jack. In my case I can easily fashion a fine UHF hoop antenna from an old metal coat hanger. (Please do not tell the cable companys of this or they might rush over to the coat hanger manufacturer and offer them an underhanded contract and pay them if they manufacture coat hangers that cannot be so modified.) But most do not know they can make such an antenna or how to do so and will just simply adopt cable T.V.. Here again, the cable companies win and one wonders if it is all merely happenstance that they do. So, here is another instance of "funneling" and possible knife-in-the-back evidence.

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4/6

An apolitical accountant (if one can be found) would know.

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As stated, there is ample precident for the fee solution. The scrubbers are one. I will include a newspaper article clipped from the Akron Beacon Journal (12/19/2002 issue) and relating to some excesses of telemarketers as another proposal of a fee solution to another problem. Such a fee would tend to remove the motive of cable T.V. to undermine air waves T.V. and they might adjust their subscriber rates to more accurately and fairly reflect their costs. The true cost of cable operations ... Democracy destroying efforts and effects included, should be borne by the perpetrators, the cable companies. The cable companies "polute Democracy" they should be charged a fee to "clean it up".

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Finally, there is the matter of politics related to getting this proposal installed. No matter what specific form or wording this proposal takes, it is sure to be opposed by the cable companies. I do believe this proposal cannot be implimented by the FCC alone but the chairman of the FCC is sure to be listened to more closely than myself with no degree in law and no power other than that of citizenship. But a letter or series of letters from the chairman of the FCC would surely have a positive effect on those who can make this proposal into law. Does not the FCC charter, provided by the United States Congress, suggest that the FCC would be properly operating if it tended to be oriented in support of the measure presented herein ? Please send me a list of names and addresses of persons I could send a copy of this proposal to so that the measure stated could have a better chance of being applied. Please feel free to make copies of this letter-report and send them to whom ever you wish to advance the proposal.

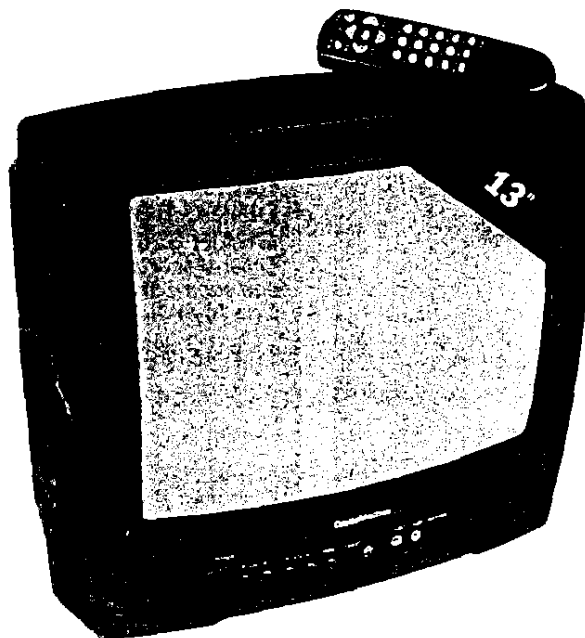
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I will thank you in advance here for any consideration you give this matter. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

Mark C. Fleming
Mark C. Fleming b.a.

CC:files, others

Enc.: newspaper clipping, advertisement



\$89 SALE

Was 94.99

CURTIS MATHES 13" TV

Front and rear A/V inputs
and sleep timer.

1-yr. Product Replacement, 7.99

12/19/2002 12/19/2002 12/19/2002 12/19/2002

FTC suggests 'do not call' list

Telemarketers would have to check registry every 3 months, could be fined

By Shelley Emling
Cox News Service

NEW YORK: Help may be on the way for those who hate a ringing phone during dinner.

The Federal Trade Commission announced a long-anticipated plan Wednesday to stop unwanted telephone pitches: a nationwide "do not call" list.

Consumers could sign up by

telephone or the Internet for a five-year stay on the list. Telemarketers would have to check the names every three months, and could be fined as much as \$11,000 if they call someone who is listed.

The rules also would require telemarketers to transmit caller ID information so that consumers who subscribe to such serv-

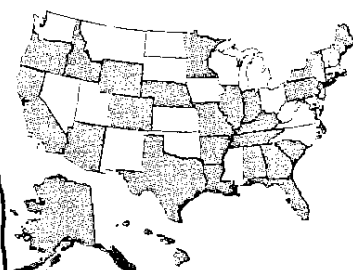
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But relief is at least several months away.

To fund the operation, the FTC needs approval from the new Congress that convenes in January to collect as much as \$16 million in fees from telemarketers. If Congress grants

Stop calling me!

☒ States with do-not-call laws



SOURCE: National Conference of State Legislatures

Please see **Calls, A5**

Associated Press

COPIES OF LETTER

02-277

418 Steubenville Avenue Apt 1
Cambridge, Ohio 43725
4 March, 2003

Mr. Michael Powell; Chairman, FCC
4919 M Street NW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Mr. Powell,

I hope this letter finds you in good health and good spirits.

This letter and 6 page report/paper titled SAVING AIR WAVES TELEVISION are an attempt to prevent the death of air waves television ("free T.V.") and thereby prevent the possible death of Democracy. Air waves television is necessary as an essential reference with which to compare cable T.V. and tends to keep cable T.V. honest. Air waves T.V. reaches out to all and provides the same signal to each and every one. The laws of nature ensure such uniformity of signal. Though cable T.V. may also provide the same signal to every subscriber-to-cable, it is not bound by nature to do so. The cable subscriber does not own the cable and has no control over what comes over it. With high speed digital computers and digital T.V. and with the control of which cable signals are directed to which citizens' homes, it is possible to differentially communicate to large groups of citizens. This communications power, concentrated in the hands of one or a few, with no air waves T.V. in existence to keep it honest, may lead to the demise of our Democracy. Please do not let them further endanger our form of government. The enclosed paper outlines the problem in some detail and provides a solution to it.

I thank you here for any consideration you give these matters. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

Mark C. Fleming
Mark C. Fleming b.a.

CC:files, et al.

Enc.: SAVING AIR WAVES TELEVISION - a report - six (6) pages

MAILED
MAR 19 2003
INFORMATION CENTER

No. of Copies 0
LSIAB CDE

SAVING AIR-WAVES TELEVISION

The following story came to me represented as being true. I will reproduce the gist of it here, but, even though I want to believe it to be true, it might not be.

dentist

The story is of a dentist. I will call him Joe. He had a successful dental practice in a town in the U.S.A. and, though the community was a little larger than he could comfortably handle, he drove himself and met the challenge.

Then, along came another dentist who opened an office and began the practice of dentistry in the same town. I will call him Albert. As Joe passed by Albert's from time to time, he noticed there was seldom an automobile in Albert's parking lot, and the lot was never seen to be full. Weeks elapsed and Joe noticed Albert had a gloomy mood when ever he saw him on the street. Eventually Joe concluded that Albert was not getting his share of the dental work available to them both and that if some action was not taken, the other would fail business-wise in his new practice.

So, from time to time, Joe began rinsing his own mouth out with whiskey just before seeing some patients. He did this even though he did not drink. It was not long until he noticed a reduction in the number of patients he was serving and, when he passed by Albert's, the parking lot there was never empty and some times full. The patient dispersal had reached a fair extent and Joe stopped the practice of the whiskey-rinse. There was enough business for both of them.

This is some of the human side of small business. It is not regulated by law. It is one of those things some of us do when we see it should be done. I am generally not in favor of trickery but in this instance I can easily forgive Joe. Here is one more:

con-
struc-
tion

I was in Colorado working as an electronics technician when I got a case of the gloomies myself. I began to doubt a lot of things and needed some helpful words. One day, while in this mood and seeking an encouraging word, I asked a coworker if he could think of a true tale of an instance where some one in business went out of his way to help the competition, even if it was just a little help. I further asked that he not mention any names so that no one would be embarrassed and so the information could not be used to give me or another some advantage.

He told me of a man who had a small contracting business working in construction and landscaping. A slump in the economy that lasted a while had a devastating effect on his business and he fell on hard times. Another, a large company working in that same field and in that same geographical area heard of the guy's plight and, out of the blue, offered him a subcontract (which they did not have to do as they could have easily expanded their business to handle the work). He readily accepted and the next day went to the work site to size up the job. It was road construction. He found the back hoe and other equipment there all gassed up and ready for him. He set himself at once to the task and did it well and in short order.

Financially he had won on that job and that kept his head above water until he again had steady work. For the big company it was just a drop in the bucket ... for him it ment survival.

Partly because of the way I structured the request, I am sure this story is true. He was free to tell the truth. Also, I know it to be true because he is a coarse kind of guy who indulges himself in being a robust truth teller, even if some times he hurts the feelings of others present. I have not communicated with him since about 1980,

some twenty-three years has elapsed since he related the story.

If neither of these stories convince you of the good actions of some in business I invite you to reflect on your own readings for some. The Reader's Digest is full of some like these (though many are unbelievable). Dale Carnegie's book How to Win Friends and Influence People is full of encounters he had and some of the stories were much like these two. I want to believe that I am not the only person who has been liberal in such business matters. I also want to tell of them here so that you do not become discouraged.

corporations The human side of business never seems to take place when giant corporations are involved. I think it is not because only heartless men and women climb to the top of corporate ladders. Rather, the law fixing the obligations of corporations restrict such side humanitarian efforts/practices. Even if the action would prevent environmental damage or a tendency for Democracy to erode, the law does not permit much corporate excursion.

definition To say there is a battle (competition) between cable T.V. and air-waves T.V. (ether T.V.) by referring to it as cable T.V. versus free T.V. is misleading due to the lack of parallelism in the terms. The word cable refers to the medium of transmission. So, to properly compare it to the other segment of the television industry one should not use the term free T.V. but, rather, air waves T.V. or ether T.V. and I will use the proper terms herein.

disparity Cable T.V. has two sources of income, cable customers/subscribers and advertisers. Air waves T.V. has only one source of income, advertisers. As costs have risen effecting the whole industry, it has been easier for cable, with it's two sources of income, to keep up and meet expenses. A major factor advertisers consider is the number of persons the medium will reach. As cable T.V. has increased it's subscribers, air waves T.V. has lost viewers. Since the advertisers are not willing to pay quite so much for air waves T.V., air waves T.V. has had, to meet expenses, to increase the number of ads it shows per hour. This, in turn, degrades the program. That leads to still fewer viewers and it is expected that, eventually, air waves T.V. will become extinct (die). It has been estimated that air waves T.V. will die within five to ten years.

Democracy in danger Cable T.V. will be the big winner if air waves T.V. dies. Cable T.V. will not have that as competition. With out the competition Cable T.V. can degrade in any of several directions. With a greater partial or total monopoly it can charge excessively, further reduce the moral scope of it's programs (which have never been well regulated) and more. But there is a more serious hazard in store for America (U.S.A.) if all T.V. goes underground (to cable T.V.). We will tend to lose our Democracy. You see, to exercise good judgement, the population must be well informed. With out air waves T.V. as a corrective reference, cable T.V. can mislead. It is only through sources that offer a variety of philosophical perspectives (a variety of political orientations) can we, the citizens, truly gain insights and can properly compare and evaluate contrasting points of view. With out air waves T.V. our votes, for example, will not be as fine tuned as they have tended to be. Cable T.V. realizes what a win it will have and will want the extra power. They will no doubt say "We will present alternative political positions." It is like the accountant/bookkeeper who goes to the CEO or owner of the company and says, "If you will authorize us to stop keeping the books in such a detailed fashion as we have, we could do other things and get a lot more work done around here. You can trust us. The books have always ballanced." If the CEO/owner says

"Yes." there goes the audit trail. And there will be little recovery when things go wrong.

who is guilty So, cable T.V. is winning over air waves T.V.. It is obviously true that when ever some one kills another for gain, to find a good lead to the killer, all one need do is find out who will benefit from the death. For example, if an old lady is found dead with a knife sticking out of her back, we should take a look at her will. This makes sense to most of us. The killer might not be among the heirs but it is a good source of leads (they have motive). So, though it might not be cable T.V.'s fault for the demise of air waves T.V., if there is some thing that points to cable T.V. that shows air waves T.V. being hurried along toward it's death, should we not become aware of it ? I have three pieces of information for you that suggest that some entity (could it be cable T.V. ?) is trying to pugh air waves T.V..to it's death.

(1) Curtis Mathes About a week ago I bought a new 13" color Curtis Mathes television receiver. It was on sale at KMart locally here in Cambridge, Ohio (see attached ad). I had been watching air waves T.V., either of two stations was available to me here; NBC and PBS with both available via UHF. I was using an old black and white set that was on it's last legs. I was looking forward to seeing color T.V. after so many years of black and white.

The new color receiver has a red light on the front along with the printed legend POWER. It looks like an LED (light emitting diode). I thought it was a pilot light. The T.V. was intermittant with the picture and sound coming on and off with a popping sound. The raster also was going on and off. I was hoping it would settle down and stay on as I was trying to adjust it for the first time and learning about how to control it. I was also trying to evaluate the quality of the picture and watch a show so I was not shocked to find the red light was always on when the picture, sound and raster were off and always off when those three were on. Further, at the time of the transistion a loud popping sound like a relay (mechanical) kicking on or off was heard. Though I have come to believe the condition I was seeing was not an electronics failure and that the set was designed to perform that way, I returned the set to KMart and got a refund. I used the refund to buy a 13" color Magnavox T.V. from that KMart.

I now believe that Curtis Mathes designed the T.V. so that, if the signal at the input jack, as measured perhaps at the second detector, was weak or variable (signifying air waves connection) the T.V. would disconnect the speaker, turn off the picture and the raster. This can easily be done by way of a relay control. The relay could also control the red light as stated. One might think that this design would prevent a viewer from watching a shoddy picture with bad sound due to a weak or variable signal and thus preserve the integrity of the appearance of a Curtis Mathes set, but it can also be thought of as "funneling" the viewer/owner away from air waves T.V. to cable T.V. and one wonders "Did cable T.V. enter into some contract with Curtis Mathes to get this result designed into the set ?" The result favors cable T.V. just as the knife in the back favors the heirs.

(2) Magnavox The Magnavox came with out any VHF or UHF antennae. I had to buy those two antennae separately and did so. The ads for the Magnavox did not show any antennas but I assumed they would be in the box with the T.V. just as I always assume that new shoes come with shoe strings. Since the Magnavox set did not have the on-off relay control of the Curtis Mathes design, I was able to get a steady raster, fair picture, and crackling sound. I have ordered a plus 20 db rf amplifier to

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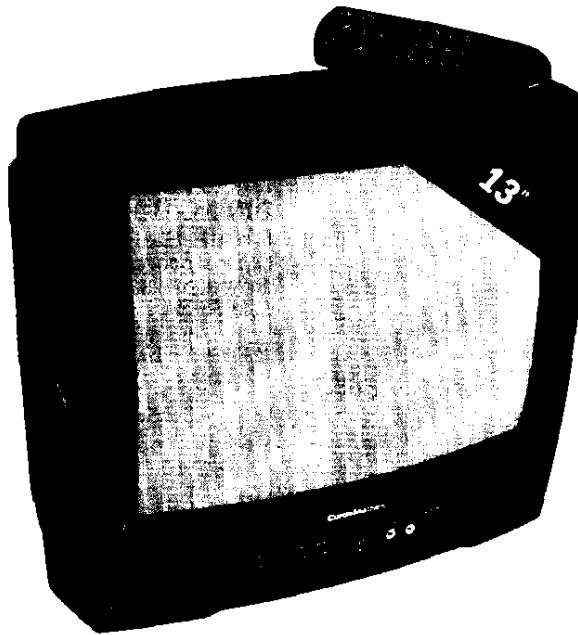
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12/19/2002 12/19/2002 12/19/2002 Thursday 12/19/2002

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Aspen Business Journal

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Cox News Service

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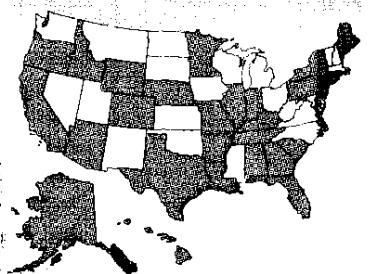
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Please see **Calls, A5**

Stop calling me!

States with do-not-call laws



SOURCE: National Conference
of State Legislatures

Associated Press

TELETYPE UNIT LATE FILED

02-277

418 Steubenville Avenue Apt 1
Cambridge, Ohio 43725
4 March, 2003

Mr. Kevin Martin; Commissioner, FCC
1919 M Street NW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Mr. Martin,

I hope this letter finds you in good health and good spirits.

This letter and 6 page report/paper titled SAVING AIR WAVES TELEVISION are an attempt to prevent the death of air waves television ("free T.V.") and thereby prevent the possible death of Democracy. Air waves television is necessary as an essential reference with which to compare cable T.V. and tends to keep cable T.V. honest. Air waves T.V. reaches out to all and provides the same signal to each and every one. The laws of nature ensure such uniformity of signal. Though cable T.V. may also provide the same signal to every subscriber-to-cable, it is not bound by nature to do so. The cable subscriber does not own the cable and has no control over what comes over it. With high speed digital computers and digital T.V. and with the control of which cable signals are directed to which citizens' homes, it is possible to differentially communicate to large groups of citizens. This communications power, concentrated in the hands of one or a few, with no air waves T.V. in existence to keep it honest, may lead to the demise of our Democracy. Please do not let them further endanger our form of government. The enclosed paper outlines the problem in some detail and provides a solution to it.

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Enc.: SAVING AIR WAVES TELEVISION - a report - six (6) pages

03/04/2003

MAR 14 2003

Director of Center

File of Collins re: 0
USIAHODE

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This is some of the human side of small business. It is not regulated by law. It is one of those things some of us do when we see it should be done. I am generally not in favor of trickery but in this instance I can easily forgive Joe. Here is one more:

con- I was in Colorado working as an electronics technician when I struc- got a case of the gloomies myself. I began to doubt a lot of things and needed some helpful words. One day, while in this mood and seeking an encouraging word, I asked a coworker if he could think of a true tale of an instance where some one in business went out of his way to help the competition, even if it was just a little help. I further asked that he not mention any names so that no one would be embarrassed and so the information could not be used to give me or another some advantage.

He told me of a man who had a small contracting business working in construction and landscaping. A slump in the economy that lasted a while had a devastating effect on his business and he fell on hard times. Another, a large company working in that same field and in that same geographical area heard of the guy's plight and, out of the blue, offered him a subcontract (which they did not have to do as they could have easily expanded their business to handle the work). He readily accepted and the next day went to the work site to size up the job. It was road construction. He found the back hoe and other equipment there all gassed up and ready for him. He set himself at once to the task and did it well and in short order.

Financially he had won on that job and that kept his head above water until he again had steady work. For the big company it was just a drop in the bucket ... for him it ment survival.

Partly because of the way I structured the request, I am sure this story is true. He was free to tell the truth. Also, I know it to be true because he is a coarse kind of guy who indulges himself in being a robust truth teller, even if some times he hurts the feelings of others present. I have not communicated with him since about 1980,

some twenty-three years has elapsed since he related the story.

If neither of these stories convince you of the good actions of some in business I invite you to reflect on your own readings for some. The Reader's Digest is full of some like these (though many are unbelievable). Dale Carnegie's book How to Win Friends and Influence People is full of encounters he had and some of the stories were much like these two. I want to believe that I am not the only person who has been liberal in such business matters. I also want to tell of them here so that you do not become discouraged.

The human side of business never seems to take place when giant corporations are involved. I think it is not because only heartless men and women climb to the top of corporate ladders. Rather, the law fixing the obligations of corporations restrict such side humanitarian efforts/practices. Even if the action would prevent environmental damage or a tendency for Democracy to erode, the law does not permit much corporate excursion.

To say there is a battle (competition) between cable T.V. and air-waves T.V. (ether T.V.) by referring to it as cable T.V. versus free T.V. is misleading due to the lack of parallelism in the terms. The word cable refers to the medium of transmission. So, to properly compare it to the other segment of the television industry one should not use the term free T.V. but, rather, air waves T.V. or ether T.V. and I will use the proper terms herein.

Cable T.V. has two sources of income, cable customers/subscribers and advertisers. Air waves T.V. has only one source of income, advertisers. As costs have risen effecting the whole industry, it has been easier for cable, with it's two sources of income, to keep up and meet expenses. A major factor advertisers consider is the number of persons the medium will reach. As cable T.V. has increased it's subscribers, air waves T.V. has lost viewers. Since the advertisers are not willing to pay quite so much for air waves T.V., air waves T.V. has had, to meet expenses, to increase the number of ads it shows per hour. This, in turn, degrades the program. That leads to still fewer viewers and it is expected that, eventually, air waves T.V. will become extinct (die). It has been estimated that air waves T.V. will die within five to ten years.

Cable T.V. will be the big winner if air waves T.V. dies. Cable T.V. will not have that as competition. With out the competition Cable T.V. can degrade in any of several directions. With a greater partial or total monopoly it can charge excessively, further reduce the moral scope of it's programs (which have never been well regulated) and more. But there is a more serious hazard in store for America (U.S.A.) if all T.V. goes underground (to cable T.V.). We will tend to lose our Democracy. You see, to exercise good judgement, the population must be well informed. With out air waves T.V. as a corrective reference, cable T.V. can mislead. It is only through sources that offer a variety of philosophical perspectives (a variety of political orientations) can we, the citizens, truly gain insights and can properly compare and evaluate contrasting points of view. With out air waves T.V. our votes, for example, will not be as fine tuned as they have tended to be. Cable T.V. realizes what a win it will have and will want the extra power. They will no doubt say "We will present alternative political positions." It is like the accountant/bookkeeper who goes to the CEO or owner of the company and says, "If you will authorize us to stop keeping the books in such a detailed fashion as we have, we could do other things and get a lot more work done around here. You can trust us. The books have always ballanced." If the CEO/owner says

"Yes." there goes the audit trail. And there will be little recovery when things go wrong.

who
is
guilty
So, cable T.V. is winning over air waves T.V.. It is obviously true that when ever some one kills another for gain, to find a good lead to the killer, all one need do is find out who will benefit from the death. For example, if an old lady is found dead with a knife sticking out of her back, we should take a look at her will. This makes sense to most of us. The killer might not be among the heirs but it is a good source of leads (they have motive). So, though it might not be cable T.V.'s fault for the demise of air waves T.V., if there is some thing that points to cable T.V. that shows air waves T.V. being hurried along toward it's death, should we not become aware of it ? I have three pieces of information for you that suggest that some entity (could it be cable T.V. ?) is trying to push air waves T.V..to it's death.

(1)
Curtis
Mathes
About a week ago I bought a new 13" color Curtis Mathes television receiver. It was on sale at KMart locally here in Cambridge, Ohio (see attached ad). I had been watching air waves T.V., either of two stations was available to me here; NBC and PBS with both available via UHF. I was using an old black and white set that was on it's last legs. I was looking forward to seeing color T.V. after so many years of black and white.

The new color receiver has a red light on the front along with the printed legend POWER. It looks like an LED (light emitting diode). I thought it was a pilot light. The T.V. was intermittant with the picture and sound coming on and off with a popping sound. The raster also was going on and off. I was hoping it would settle down and stay on as I was trying to adjust it for the first time and learning about how to control it. I was also trying to evaluate the quality of the picture and watch a show so I was not shocked to find the red light was always on when the picture, sound and raster were off and always off when those three were on. Further, at the time of the transistion a loud popping sound like a relay (mechanical) kicking on or off was heard. Though I have come to believe the condition I was seeing was not an electronics failure and that the set was designed to perform that way, I returned the set to KMart and got a refund. I used the refund to buy a 13" color Magnavox T.V. from that KMart.

I now believe that Curtis Mathes designed the T.V. so that, if the signal at the input jack, as measured perhaps at the second detector, was weak or variable (signifying air waves connection) the T.V. would disconnect the speaker, turn off the picture and the raster. This can easily be done by way of a relay control. The relay could also control the red light as stated. One might think that this design would prevent a viewer from watching a shoddy picture with bad sound due to a weak or variable signal and thus preserve the integrity of the appearance of a Curtis Mathes set, but it can also be thought of as "funneling" the viewer/owner away from air waves T.V. to cable T.V. and one wonders "Did cable T.V. enter into some contract with Curtis Mathes to get this result designed into the set ?" The result favors cable T.V. just as the knife in the back favors the heirs.

(2)
Magna-
vox
The Magnavox came with out any VHF or UHF antennae. I had to buy those two antennae separately and did so. The ads for the Magnavox did not show any antennas but I assumed they would be in the box with the T.V. just as I always assume that new shoes come with shoe stringa. Since the Magnavox set did not have the on-off relay control of the Curtis Mathes design, I was able to get a steady raster, fair picture, and crackling sound. I have ordered a plus 20 db rf amplifier to

compensate and improve the audio. I hope it will work well enough for me to continue to watch air waves T.V.. In the past, T.V. manufacturers either manufactured their own antennas or farmed out the manufacture and in this way they could control both the quality of performance and the esthetics of the antenna design. One wonders if Magnavox was under contract to give up manufacturing air waves antennas. It seems improbable that a company would give up control of the design of the antennas with out payment of some kind.

(3) The antennas I bought to use with the Magnavox T.V. consist of a UHF hoop and two straight length-adjustable VHF antennas for use on top of the T.V. receiver or close to it. The hoop looks small. I compared it with the UHF hoop I have been using with the black and white T.V. for over six years. The new hoop is about two (2) centimeters shorter in diameter than the old hoop. It is believed that there is only one optimum diameter UHF hoop antenna useful for use in receiving the spectrum of frequencies used by UHF transmitters. So, One of these antennas is the wrong size. I believe the newer one is of the wrong diameter and will present a weaker signal at the T.V. input jack. In my case I can easily fashion a fine UHF hoop antenna from an old metal coat hanger. (Please do not tell the cable companys of this or they might rush over to the coat hanger manufacturer and offer them an underhanded contract and pay them if they manufacture coat hangers that cannot be so modified.) But most do not know they can make such an antenna or how to do so and will just simply adopt cable T.V.. Here again, the cable companies win and one wonders if it is all merely happenstance that they do. So, here is another instance of "funneling" and possible knife-in-the-back evidence.

who will The dentist story and contractor story were placed herein so you fix it ? will not become overly discouraged about the motives and actions of your fellow man. Due to the limitations of law imposed on the CEOs of giant corporations they cannot cross certain lines and act like human beings with hearts. (The cash gifts seen on T.V. and given to charty are tax write offs for the corporations.) So, if giant corporations are to behave sensibly toward the enviournment and the Democracy, government will will have to bring them to do it. And government has often done such. A good example: the scrubbers required on coal fired electric utilities. Others include the existance of superfunds for cleaning up toxic waste sites. If air waves T.V. is to be saved, the government will have to do it. Corporations will not voluntarily, on their own, modify their ways of doing business so that air waves T.V., needed to maintain Democracy, will continue to exist. Instead of trying just a little bit to save air waves T.V., the cable companies seem to be operating behind the scenes (albeit in a legal way) to hurry the demise of air waves T.V. and since there is none to oppose them, this might come to pass.

fee solution A tax is defined by the Random House Dictionary of the English Language as "a sum of money levied upon incomes, property, sales, et cetera, by a government for its support or for specific facilities or services". When the tax does not serve the government we can properly refer to it as a fee. The solution to the problem is to charge the cable companies a fee. The fee can be based on the income the cable companies derive from cable subscribers. Up to 100 per cent could be charged. The amount collected could, after the government deducted it's cost of collection, be dispersed to the air waves television systems. I do not know the formula that would be just so that the dispersion would be fair and so that air waves T.V. would be preserved and so that, as a result, Democracy would be preserved.

An apolitical accountant (if one can be found) would know.

precident
lent As stated, there is ample precident for the fee solution. The scrubbers are one. I will include a newspaper article clipped from the Akron Beacon Journal (12/19/2002 issue) and relating to some excesses of telemarketers as another proposal of a fee solution to another problem. Such a fee would tend to remove the motive of cable T.V. to undermine air waves T.V. and they might adjust their subscriber rates to more accurately and fairly reflect their costs. The true cost of cable operations ... Democracy destroying efforts and effects included, should be borne by the perpetrators, the cable companies. The cable companies "polute Democracy" they should be charged a fee to "clean it up".

effects This proposed action, the fee solution, could have a beneficial effect on all television advertising. It could also have a positive effect on the quality of programming. The proposed solution will tend to level the playing field. Both air waves T.V. and cable T.V. can make a profit. In time, it is hoped a happy balance can be arrived at. If air waves T.V. grows by gaining viewers from cable T.V. then air waves T.V. will receive less from cable T.V. and cut-throat competition would tend to be removed as a mode of operation for the industry. In summary, there would be the off-setting force (the fee solution), which is not in place yet, that would provide redistribution of income.

getting
the fix
adopted Finally, there is the matter of politics related to getting this proposal installed. No matter what specific form or wording this proposal takes, it is sure to be opposed by the cable companies. I do believe this proposal cannot be implimented by the FCC alone but the chairman of the FCC is sure to be listened to more closely than myself with no degree in law and no power other than that of citizenship. But a letter or series of letters from the chairman of the FCC would surely have a positive effect on those who can make this proposal into law. Does not the FCC charter, provided by the United States Congress, suggest that the FCC would be properly operating if it tended to be oriented in support of the measure presented herein ? Please send me a list of names and addresses of persons I could send a copy of this proposal to so that the measure stated could have a better chance of being applied. Please feel free to make copies of this letter-report and send them to whom ever you wish to advance the proposal.

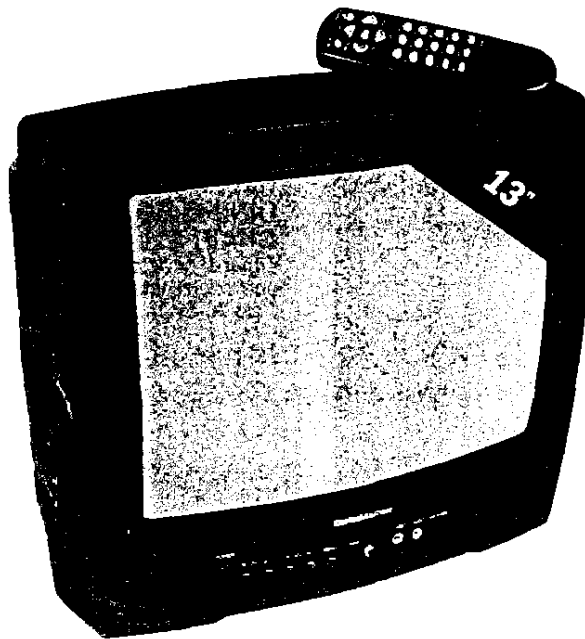
Thanks. I will thank you in advance here for any consideration you give this matter. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

Mark C. Fleming
Mark C. Fleming b.a.

CC:files, others

Enc.: newspaper clipping, advertisement



\$89 SALE

Was 94.99

CURTIS MATHES 13" TV

Front and rear A/V inputs
and sleep timer.

1-yr. Product Replacement, 7.99

12/15/2002 12/15/2002 12/15/2002 12/15/2002

FTC suggests 'do not call' list

Telemarketers would have to check registry every 3 months, could be fined

By Shelley Emling
Cox News Service

NEW YORK: Help may be on the way for those who hate a ringing phone during dinner.

The Federal Trade Commission announced a long-anticipated plan Wednesday to stop unwanted telephone pitches: a nationwide "do not call" list.

Consumers could sign up by

telephone or the Internet for a five-year stay on the list. Telemarketers would have to check the names every three months, and could be fined as much as \$11,000 if they call someone who is listed.

The rules also would require telemarketers to transmit caller ID information so that consumers who subscribe to such serv-

ices will know who is calling.

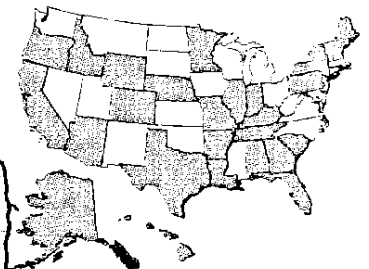
But relief is at least several months away.

To fund the operation, the FTC needs approval from the new Congress that convenes in January to collect as much as \$16 million in fees from telemarketers. If Congress grants

Please see **Calls, A5**

Stop calling me!

States with do-not-call laws



SOURCE: National Conference
of State Legislatures

Associated Press